

**REMARKS**

I. **Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-16 were canceled in a Preliminary Amendment, submitted September 04, 2003. Claims 17-25 are canceled in the Amendment submitted herewith. Claims 26-39 are therefore pending in the application.

II. **Claims are Subject to Restriction Under 35 U.S.C. § 121**

It is asserted in the Action, that Restriction of claims 17-39 to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 17-25, drawn to a composition comprising a recombinant adenovirus, classified in class 435, subclass 235.1.

Group II: Claims 26-39, drawn to a method for producing an immune response against HIV-1 infection, classified in class 424, subclass 233.1.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, the invention according to claims 26-39, for examination in the present application. It is the Applicants' belief that claims 26-39 are in condition for allowance, and action towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned Agent at the number indicated.

The notice set a one-month period to comply, to and including October 25, 2003. Thus, this response is believed to be timely filed. Should any fees be deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-1300.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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